

From John Martinello, Brighton, Ontario re IJC practices and flood risk on Upper St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario, dated Oct. 19 via email

Water Level Update:

1. The first six numbers that are subject of this Update are as follows:

(a) over the period 15 - 17 October 2019, Lake Ontario rose from 246.08 ft to 246.10 ft to 246.13 ft. This increase in water levels happened after a steady decrease in water levels over the period 1 - 14 October 2019 (see <http://ire-wm.usace.army.mil/reports/GreatLakes/GLWL-CurrentMonth-Feet.pdf>);

(b) as of 17 October 2019, Lake Erie (the source of 80% of all water that enters Lake Ontario) is 2.08 ft (approx 2 ft, 1 in) above its long-term average;

(c) as of 17 October 2019, Lake Ontario is 1.35 ft (approx 1 ft, 4 in) above its long-term average; and

(d) at its 18 October 2019 Weekly Great Lakes Water Level Update, the US Army Corps of Engineers reported (in part), "*So far this month, the Great Lakes basin has received 145% of its normal October precipitation*" (see <https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Great-Lakes-Information/Great-Lakes-Water-Levels/Water-Level-Forecast/Weekly-Great-Lakes-Water-Levels/>).

2. So with all this high water on Lake Ontario & Lake Erie & all of the precipitation that has already fallen on the Great Lakes basin, what did the International Joint Commission (IJC) do? That's the seventh number. Today, 19 October 2019, the IJC reduced Lake Ontario outflows from 8,920 cubic metres/sec to 8,870 cubic metres/sec (see [https://ijc.org/en/loslr/watershed/outflow-changes?fbclid=IwAR2\\_3jJmHI40Velvz10yqo2gvxIVdsv3OII68UgId9TqhYaweumxfxlznJ4](https://ijc.org/en/loslr/watershed/outflow-changes?fbclid=IwAR2_3jJmHI40Velvz10yqo2gvxIVdsv3OII68UgId9TqhYaweumxfxlznJ4)).

3. Over the past three years of this term of the current Government of Canada there have been two floods of Lake Ontario. This spring's flood was worse than the flood of 2017. The current Government of Canada appointed **Dr Pierre Beland** to the IJC. And my own summary of the attitude of my local representative of the current Government of Canada - Member of Parliament Kim Rudd - is that she does not care about all the costs & disruption caused by Lake Ontario flooding.

4. I hope that there is not another flood of Lake Ontario in the near future. And I hope that the outcome of this Monday's federal election leads to a Government of Canada that better protects us from the devastating, disruptive & costly impacts of Lake Ontario flooding.

5. There is nothing confidential in this e-mail. Please feel free to distribute it as you see fit.

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